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NOTIFICATION

Port Blair, dated the 14th October, 2015

No. 264/2015/F. No. 6-9/2014-Legal (Vol.V).— The following Act, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, and Section (I) is hereby reproduced below for information of General Public.

Sd./.-(Rizwanullah) Deputy Secretary (Law)

THE REGIONAL RURAL BANKS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2015

An

Act

Further to amend the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976.

BE it enacted by parliament in the Sixty-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. *(1)* This Act may by called the Regional Rural Banks (Amendment) Act, 2015.

Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act.

21 of 1976.

- **2.** In the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 3, in sub-section (3), in clause (c),—
 - Amendment of section 3.
 - (a) the words "during the first five years of its functioning" shall be omitted:
 - (b) the proviso shall be omitted.
 - **3.** In the principal Act, in section *5*, —

Amendment of section 5.

- (a) for the words "five crores of rupees divided into five lakhs of fully paid-up shares of one hundred rupees each", the words "two thousand crore of rupees, divided into two hundred crore of fully paid-up shares of ten rupees each" shall be substituted;
- (b) in the proviso, for the words "twenty-five lakhs of rupees, and the shares shall be, in all cases, fully paid-up shares of one hundred rupees each", the words "one crore of rupees, and the shares shall be,

in all cases, fully paid-up shares of ten rupees each" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 6.

- 4. In the principal Act, in section 6, —
- (a) in sub-section (1), for the words "twenty –five lakhs of rupees or exceed one crore of rupees", the words "one crore of rupees" shall be substituted:
- (b) in sub-section (2), the following provisos shall be inserted, namely:—

"Provided that in case the Regional Rural Bank raises its capital from sources other than the Central Government or the State Government or the Sponsor Bank, the shareholding of the Central Government and the Sponser Bank shall not be less than fifty-one percent.:

Provided further that the Central Government shall consult the concerned State Government in the level of shareholding in the Regional Rural Bank of such State Government is reduced below fifteen percent.";

- (c) after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—
 - "(2A) The Central Government may, in consultation with the Sponsor Bank and the State Government, by notification, either raise or reduce the limit of shareholding of the Central Government, the State Government or the Sponsor Bank specified in sub-section (2):

Provided that the Central Government shall consult the concerned State Government before reducing the limit of shareholding of such State Government.";

(d) in sub-section (3), after the words, brackets and figures " as is specified in sub-section (2)", the words, brackets, figure and letter " or, as the case may be, notified by the Central Government under sub-section (2A)" shall be inserted.

Amendment of section 9.

- **5.** In the principal Act, in section *9*, in sub-section *(1)*,—
- (a) in clause (a), the following proviso shall be inserted namely:—

"Provided that no person shall be nominated as a director, if he is already a director on the Board of any other Regional Rural Bank;";

- (b) after clause (e), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—
 - "(f) such number of directors elected by the shareholders other than the directors nominated by the Central Government, the State Government, the Sponsor Bank and other institution owned or controlled by the Central Government or the State Government, whose names are entered in the register of shareholders of the Regional Rural Bank at least ninety days before the date of the meeting in which the election of directors takes place on the following basis, namely:—
 - (i) where the total amount of equity share capital issued to such shareholders is ten percent, or less of the total issued equity capital, one director shall be elected from such shareholders;

- (ii) where the total amount of equity share capital issued to such shareholders is more than ten percent, but less than twenty-five percent of the total issued equity capital, two directors shall be elected from the shareholders including the shareholders referred to in sub-clause (i);
- (iii) where the total amount of equity share capital issued to such shareholders is twenty-five percent or more of the total issued equity capital, three directors shall be elected from the shareholders including shareholders referred to in sub-clauses (i) and (ii).";
- (c) after sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—
 - "(3) The Central Government may appoint an officer of the Central Government on the Board of Regional Rural Banks, if it considers necessary for the purposes of effective functioning of the Regional Rural Banks.".
- **6.** In the principal Act, for section 10, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

Substitution of new section for section 10.

"10. A director nominated under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 9 shall hold office during the pleasure of the Central Government and for such term, not exceeding three years, from the date on which he assumes his office, as the Central Government may specify at the time of his nomination and shall be eligible for renomination:

Term of office of director.

Provided that no such director shall hold office either continuously or intermittently for a period exceeding six years.".

7. In the Principal Act, in section 19, in sub-section *(1)*, for the figures, letters and words "31st day of December", the figures, letters and words "31st day of March" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 19.